

FLD 458

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1

COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Merchant and Military Information Concerning the Port of Burgas	DATE DISTR.	28 October 1953
		NO. OF PAGES	4
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT	
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

25X1

1. Port Equipment

2. A lookout station equipped with a semaphore, but apparently lacking a radio antenna, is located in the vicinity of the tip of the eastern mole.

25X1

3. The port entrance is closed during the night by a net obstruction supported by spherical buoys. No "gate boats" were seen. The net is opened at dawn about 5:00, and closed at sunset, by means of a float.

4. As indicated in the sketch on page 2, the west quay has a large 1-story masonry shed of old construction, with spur rail lines on both sides. On the quay there are two gantry cranes of 15 ton capacity, running on tracks and equipped with driver's cabin and unjointed slewing arm extensible to about 10 meters.

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5. As indicated in the sketch on page 2, the north quay (still on the east side of the port) has three buildings. The eastern one, a new construction, is three stories high; the middle one, of old construction, is one story high; and the

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC						
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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

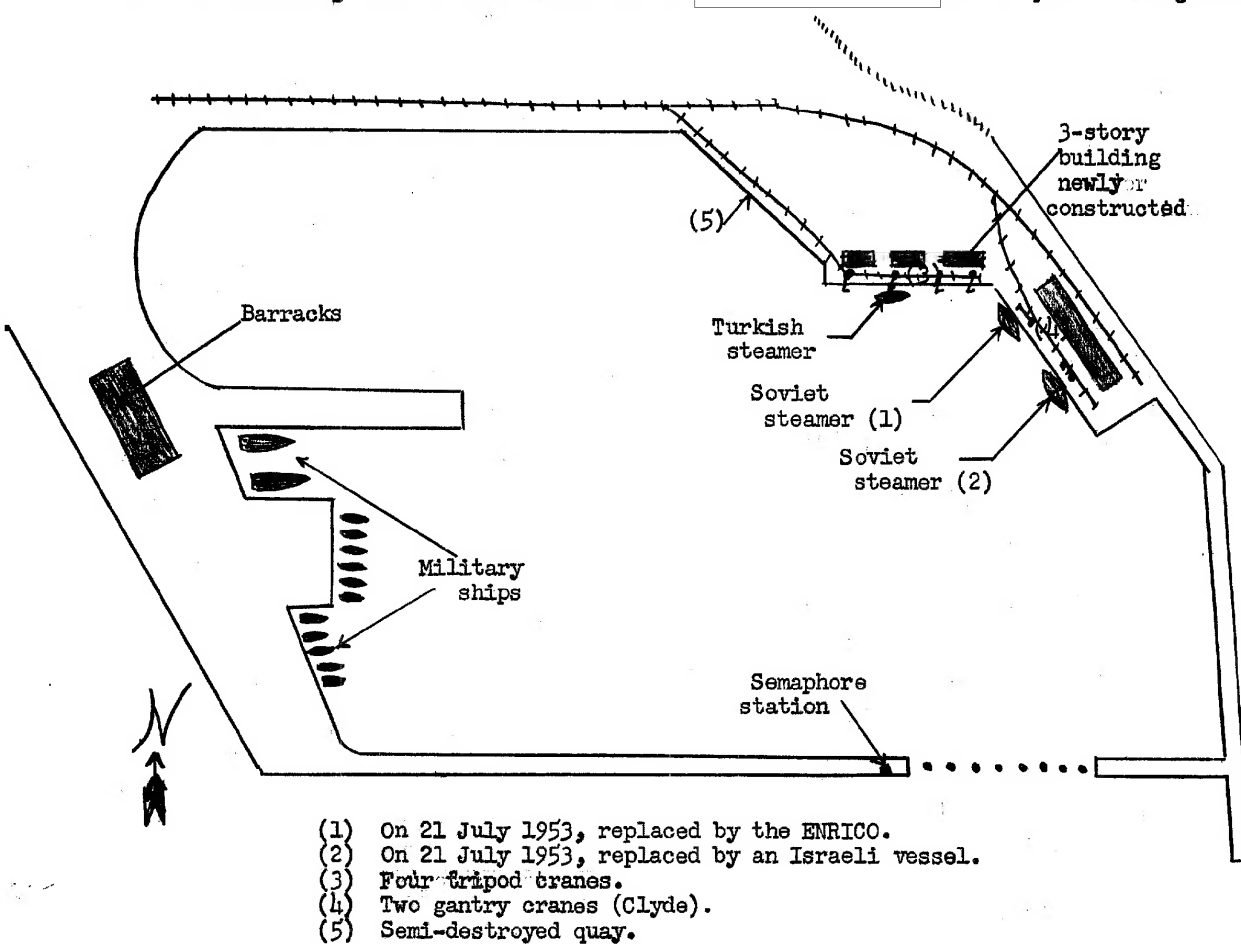
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western one serves as Customs headquarters. The quay is equipped with a spur rail line, and has three beak-type tripod cranes running on tracks, about three tons capacity each. In the vicinity of the west corner of this quay, another crane of the same type and capacity is under construction. [redacted] motor 25X1 parts [redacted] hoisted from a floating pontoon with a fixed gantry crane. 25X1

6. The remaining quay, beyond the corner mentioned above, is still damaged from World War II, and no signs of restoration work were noted.
7. A 3-story barracks in which Naval personnel are quartered is located in the western part of the port. On the quay in front of this building, moored straight in, were the ships which entered the port on the evening of 16 July 1953.
8. The following sketch shows installations [redacted] at the port of Burgas: 25X1



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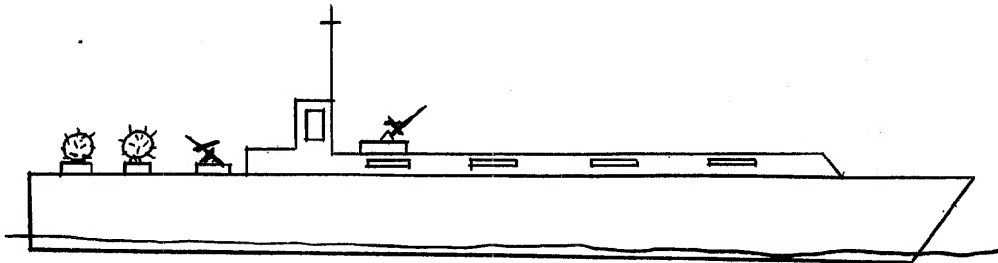
Military Information

9. [REDACTED] 25X1

[REDACTED] About sunset the two ships were headed toward Anastas and were not later seen returning to port. 25X1

10. On 16 July 1953, about 6:00 p.m., the following units of the military Navy were noted [REDACTED] probably coming from the south (the ships entered the port and were not observed leaving): 25X1

- a. Three German-type landing craft, with unloading doors in the prow, having on board landing troops with complete battle gear; the troops who could be seen wore helmets and were armed;
- b. Two landing craft carrying spherical mines (with spikes) on the stern of the deck; iron guide rails for rolling the mines were arranged on either side; the ships were armed with two 20 mm. guns, one toward the prow and one toward the stern of the bridge; no torpedo tubes were seen; troops were inside the hold;



- c. Escorting the three landing craft were four light units of the subchaser type, which had on board cylinder-shaped depth charges which slide on special iron guides; they were armed with machine guns [REDACTED] judged to be eight mm., one toward the prow and one toward the stern of the bridge; the length of the boats was estimated at about 20 meters; 25X1
- d. Six or seven motorboats of the type used in coastal patrol, but a little smaller than the subchasers; these were armed with two small-caliber machine guns, set toward the stern; and
- e. One motor torpedo boat, which appeared to be of German type, with two launching tubes cut into the superstructure, one on each side, at the height of the command bridge, open at one end; it is armed with a machine gun of unknown caliber [REDACTED] 25X1

11. In entering the gulf, the above-mentioned ships were proceeding in a straight line, and they continued this formation while entering the port. 25X1

12. On 17 or 18 July 1953, at 8:00 or 9:00 a.m., three trimotor bombers flew over the port from the south toward the north. On 28 July 1953, a jet fighter plane flew over the port on the same route.

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Merchant Ships in the Port

13. Between 15 and 20 July 1953, [] two Soviet steamships, one of about 2,000 tons and one of about 3,000 tons, at the east quay, next to the old shed. They were of old type and obviously had no radar. The first ship unloaded sheet metal, girders, pipes, rods, etc. The sheet metal was of the type suitable for ship construction; the rods were for building construction, with the angular ones having sides of three to five centimeters; and the pipes had a diameter of about 30 centimeters, with various lengths and dimensions. This ship also unloaded metal cylindrical axles about two meters long, with diameters varying between 10 and 20 centimeters. The second ship loaded minerals. 25X1

14. [] 25X1
15. After the two Soviet vessels left, their place was taken on 21 July 1953 [] ship [] which unloaded 250 tons of miscellaneous goods and loaded 2,100 tons of grain, and [] ship which loaded coal.

Miscellaneous

16. [] no information concerning port installations under construction at Sozopol, nor any modifications of the installations in the port of Burgas. 25X1
17. Merchant traffic in the port of Burgas is principally concerned with the loading of minerals, coal, and grain, and the discharge of metal materials (processed and unprocessed), motors and spare parts, machinery, etc.
18. On the quay there were large crates containing machinery of Polish origin [] 25X1
19. []
20. The railroad cars at the port are about 2.2 meters wide, of various lengths, and have a capacity of 15 or 20 tons. Some of the cars in use are new and of sheet iron.
21. [] 25X1
22. Bulgaria does not appear to have felt any repercussions from the Berlin riots, and the police act more politely and with less harshness than in Rumania, where the people, of a different race, inspire less confidence than those of countries inhabited primarily by Slavs.
23. [] Bulgaria especially lacks medicines, especially sulfamides, which are very much in demand. 25X1

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